

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 19, 20, 22-28, 30, and 32-46 are pending. Claims 1-12, 19, 20, 22-28, 30, and 32-46 are rejected. Claims 19, 20-21, 23-28 and 42 have been canceled by this amendment. Claims 43-46 have been amended to now depend from claim 1. Claims 1-12, 30, 32-41 and 43-46 remain in the case, with claims 1 and 30 being independent claims.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 30 were objected to because of the following informalities:

Applicant has amended claim 1 to refer to “at least two curved portions” and to change references to “curved surface” to “curved portion.”

Applicant has similarly amended claim 30 to refer to “curved portions” rather than “curved surfaces.” Withdrawal of these objections is requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-12, 19-20, 22-28, 30, and 32-46 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Latz (US 4,603,496) and further in view of Mize (US 6,328,456).

In the Response to Arguments, the office action states, “...that because the top surface of the lens 15 is curved (see Figure 3), and because the center points that Applicant claims can be located anywhere between the top surface of the LED 11 and the top surface of lens 15 to the left and right of the LED, there inherently exists two center points (above the top surface of the LED and below the top surface of lens 15) on each side of the LED that each curved portion is centered about a radius R (see Figure 3).”

Applicant disagrees with the statement, “...Applicant claims can be located anywhere between the top surface of the LED 11 and the top surface of the lens 15 to the left and right of the LED...” Claims 1 and 30, prior to amendment, clearly require that the curved portion “is centered about a radius R extending from a center point that lies directly above an imaginary light point source on each of the sides of the LED. This may be better understood with reference to Applicant’s

Further, Figure 3 in Latz only discloses, and indeed the entire disclosure of Latz only discloses, a single curved portion of the lens 15. Applicant is unclear how one curved portion could be centered around two different points offset from each other on either side of the LED.

However, in order to clarify the configuration of the lens Applicant has amended claims 1 and 30 to require, “a lens having a first surface with a compound shape of at least two curved

portions separated by a flat portion that is distributable around the LED light source and arranged to collimate the light from the LED, wherein each curved portion is centered about a radius R extending from a center point that lies directly above an imaginary light point source on one side of the LED with each curved portion centered over the imaginary light point source on each side..”

Latz only discloses one curved portion of the lens, and therefore does not disclose a lens with a surface having a compound shape of at least two curved portions separated by a flat portion, much less that each of the curved portions are centered around a radius R extending from a center point directly above an imaging light point source on one side of the LED. Mize does not cure this deficiency.

Mize may teach that the glass surrounding the LED has a flat portion, but the curved portions of the glass are not centered about a radius from a center point located above an imaginary point light source on either side of the LED. This lack of centering can be seen in any of the figures from Mize, including Figures 3, 6, 7, 8 and 9.

Applicant therefore submits that claims 1-12, 30, 32-41 and 43-46 are patentably distinguishable over the prior art and request allowance of these claims.

No new matter has been added by this amendment. Allowance of all claims is requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

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Respectfully submitted,

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